

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

1. (Currently amended) A sidewall for a trailer having a front end and a rear end comprising:

a bottom rail which extends generally from the front end of the trailer to the rear end of the trailer, ~~said bottom rail having an upper portion and a lower portion;~~

at least one panel comprised of an inner skin, an outer skin and a core member between said inner skin and said outer skin, said at least one panel having an upper portion and a lower portion portion, a lower portion and a bottom end, said at least one panel being supported at said bottom end thereof; and

a baserail having an upper portion and a lower portion, said lower portion of said baserail being secured to ~~said upper portion of said bottom rail~~ and said upper portion of said baserail being secured to said lower portion of said at least one panel such that said baserail vertically separates said at least one panel from said bottom rail and such that said baserail is positioned generally vertically between said at least one panel and said bottom rail, said upper portion of said baserail further being secured to said lower portion of said at least one panel such that an outer surface of said baserail at said upper portion thereof ~~faces~~ contacts said inner skin of said at least one panel at said lower portion thereof and such that an inner surface of said baserail at said upper portion thereof forms part of a boundary of an interior of the trailer.

2. (Cancelled).

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3. (Previously presented) A sidewall as defined in claim 1, wherein said lower portion of said baserail abuts against an outer surface of said upper portion of said bottom rail.
4. (Previously presented) A sidewall for a trailer comprising:
a bottom rail;
at least one panel comprised of an inner skin, an outer skin and a core member between said inner skin and said outer skin;
a baserail having an upper portion and a lower portion, said lower portion of said baserail being secured to said bottom rail; and
a splicing member which secures said upper portion of said baserail to said at least one panel such that said baserail separates said at least one panel from said bottom rail.
5. (Previously presented) A sidewall as defined in claim 4, wherein said splicing member has a first portion, a second portion and a third portion, said first portion abutting said outer skin of said at least one panel, said second portion being positioned below a bottom end of said at least one panel in order to support said at least one panel, said third portion abutting said baserail.
6. (Original) A sidewall as defined in claim 5, wherein at least one rivet secures said upper portion of said baserail, said at least one panel and said first portion of said splicing member together, and wherein at least one rivet secures said baserail and said third portion of said splicing member together.

7. (Previously presented) A sidewall as defined in claim 5, wherein said first and second portions of said splicing member are generally straight and are generally perpendicular to one another, said second portion of said splicing member extending inwardly from an inner surface of said first portion of said splicing member.
8. (Original) A sidewall as defined in claim 7, wherein said second portion of said splicing member extends inwardly from said first portion of said splicing member a distance which is at least as large as a thickness of said at least one panel.
9. (Previously presented) A sidewall as defined in claim 7, wherein said third portion of said splicing member has a curved portion and a straight portion, said curved portion extends inwardly and downwardly from a connection between said first and second portions of said splicing member, said straight portion extends from said curved portion and abuts said baserail.
10. (Previously presented) A sidewall as defined in claim 9, wherein at least one rivet secures said baserail and said third portion of said splicing member together, said at least one rivet extends through said straight portion.
11. (Original) A sidewall as defined in claim 4, wherein said splicing member is an extrusion formed of a high strength material.
12. (Original) A sidewall as defined in claim 11, wherein said splicing member is continuous along a length thereof.

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13. (Original) A sidewall as defined in claim 1, wherein said baserail has a length of fifty-two feet.
14. (Original) A sidewall as defined in claim 13, wherein said baserail is continuous along said length thereof.
15. (Original) A sidewall as defined in claim 1, wherein said baserail has a height of twenty-two inches.
16. (Original) A sidewall as defined in claim 1, wherein said baserail has a thickness of nineteen-hundredths of an inch.
17. (Original) A sidewall as defined in claim 1, wherein said baserail is formed of a strong, lightweight material.
18. (Original) A sidewall as defined in claim 17, wherein said strong, lightweight material of said baserail is aluminum.
19. (Original) A sidewall as defined in claim 1, wherein at least two panels are provided, said at least two panels being connected together by a joint configuration.
20. (Original) A sidewall as defined in claim 1, wherein said baserail is inset from said at least one panel.

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21. (Previously presented) A sidewall as defined in claim 4, wherein said bottom rail generally extends from a front end of the trailer to a rear end of the trailer.
22. (Previously presented) A sidewall as defined in claim 4, wherein said baserail abuts against said inner skin of said at least one panel.
23. (Previously presented) A sidewall as defined in claim 4, wherein said baserail abuts against an outer surface of said bottom rail.
24. (Previously presented) A sidewall as defined in claim 4, wherein said baserail has a length of fifty-two feet.
25. (Previously presented) A sidewall as defined in claim 24, wherein said baserail is continuous along said length thereof.
26. (Previously presented) A sidewall as defined in claim 4, wherein said baserail has a height of twenty-two inches.
27. (Previously presented) A sidewall as defined in claim 4, wherein said baserail has a thickness of nineteen-hundredths of an inch.
28. (Previously presented) A sidewall as defined in claim 4, wherein said baserail is formed of a strong, lightweight material.

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29. (Previously presented) A sidewall as defined in claim 28, wherein said strong, lightweight material of said baserail is aluminum.
30. (Previously presented) A sidewall as defined in claim 4, wherein at least two panels are provided, said at least two panels being connected together by a joint configuration.
31. (Previously presented) A sidewall as defined in claim 4, wherein said baserail is inset from said at least one panel.
32. (Previously presented) A sidewall as defined in claim 1, wherein said core member of said at least one panel is formed of a compressible non-metal material.
33. (Previously presented) A sidewall as defined in claim 4, wherein said core member of said at least one panel is formed of a compressible non-metal material.
34. (Previously presented) A sidewall as defined in claim 1, wherein said upper and lower portions of said baserail are generally co-planar.
35. (Previously presented) A sidewall as defined in claim 4, wherein said upper and lower portions of said baserail are generally co-planar.

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36. (Currently amended) A sidewall as defined in claim 1, wherein for a trailer having a front end and a rear end comprising:

a bottom rail which extends generally from the front end of the trailer to the rear end of the trailer;

at least one panel comprised of an inner skin, an outer skin and a core member between said inner skin and said outer skin, said at least one panel having an upper portion and a lower portion; and

a baserail having an upper portion and a lower portion, said lower portion of said baserail being secured to said bottom rail and said upper portion of said baserail being secured to said lower portion of said at least one panel such that said baserail vertically separates said at least one panel from said bottom rail and such that said baserail is positioned generally vertically between said at least one panel and said bottom rail, said upper portion of said baserail further being secured to said lower portion of said at least one panel such that an outer surface of said baserail at said upper portion thereof faces said inner skin of said at least one panel at said lower portion thereof and such that an inner surface of said baserail at said upper portion thereof forms part of a boundary of an interior of the trailer, said baserail has a lower end, said lower end of said baserail being positioned on top of at least a portion of said bottom rail.

37. (Previously presented) A sidewall as defined in claim 4, wherein said baserail has a lower end, said lower end of said baserail being positioned on top of at least a portion of said bottom rail.

38. (New) A sidewall as defined in claim 1, further comprising a splicing member which secures said upper portion of said baserail to said at least one panel, said bottom end of said at least one panel being supported by said splicing member.

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